

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 DRC-01

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R 081700Z APR 74

FM AMCONSUL CALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 976

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

UNCLAS CALI 0153

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT

SUBJ: GOMEZ WINDS-UP CAMPAIGN IN VALLE

1. CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATE ALVARO GOMEZ HURTADO VISITED CALI APRIL 6-7 FOR THE CONCLUSION OF HIS MAJOR CAMPAIGN EFFORTS IN THE VALLE. THE CANDIDATE ADDRESSED A MASS RALLY AT THE PLAZA DE CAYCEDO THE AFTERNOON OF APRIL 6 AND ATTENDED A MAJOR FUND-RAISING BANQUET LATER THE SAME NIGHT.

2. THE RALLY AT THE PLAZA DE CAYCEDO HAD THE LARGEST ATTENDANCE THIS YEAR FOR ANY CANDIDATE, WITH A CROWD ESTIMATED BY THE REPORTING OFFICER AT 28-30 THOUSAND. THE SCENE AT THE PLAZA DE CAYCEDO, DRAPED IN BLUE, WAS REMINISCENT OF A GIANT PEP-RALLY WITH THE CONTINGENTS FROM VARIOUS VALLE TOWNS AND INGENIOS VYING WITH EACH OTHER IN DEMONSTRATING THEIR VOCAL SUPPORT FOR THE CANDIDATE.

3.

A QTE. BOX SCORE END QTE. OF POLITICAL RALLIES (SEE MEDELLIN 0115) HELD AT THE PLAZA DE CAYCEDO DURING THE 1974 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IS AS FOLLOWS:

CONSERVATIVES	28-30,000
LIBERALS	APPROX. 25,000 (AUGUST 1973)
ANAPO	18-20,000
UNO	8-10,000

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CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC (NO RALLY ATTEMPTED)

4.

ALTHOUGH THERE HAVE BEEN INDICATIONS IN THE PRESS THAT
THE LIBERAL PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE WOULD VISIT CALI BEFORE
APRIL 15 FOR A FINAL RALLY AT THE PLAZA DE CAYCEDO, SUCH
APPEARS DOUBTFUL IN THE FACE OF INTERNAL DISSENTION PLAGUING
THE LOCAL LIBERAL PARTY.

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